

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 084889
ORIGIN AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SIG-02 SSO-00 IO-13 PA-02
PRS-01 USIE-00 SS-15 NSC-05 NSCE-00 /061 R

DRAFTED BY AF/C:GHAMILTON:LM
APPROVED BY AF/C: TBUCHANAN
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O P 150134Z APR 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO OAU COLLECTIVE IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA PRIORITY
AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN PRIORITY

UNCLAS STATE 084889

CAPETOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, CG, AO

SUBJECT:DEPARTMENT BRIEFING - ZAIRE - APRIL 14

1. FOLLOWING ARE EXCERPTS CONCERNING ZAIRE FROM DEPARTMENT BRIEFING APRIL 14.
2. Q. THIS MORNING, AMBASSADOR YOUNG TOLD NBC THAT IF GENERAL MOBUTU HAD KNOWN WHAT WAS GOING ON IN HIS OWN COUNTRY, HE WOULDN'T HAVE THIS PROBLEM RIGHT NOW. IS THIS ANOTHER EXAMPLE OF AMBASSADOR YOUNG MERELY EXPRESSING HIS PERSONAL VIEWS TO NATIONAL TV, OR DOES THE STATE DEPARTMENT AGREE THAT GENERAL MOBUTU DOESN'T KNOW WHAT IS GOING ON IN HIS OWN COUNTRY?

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A. WE AGREE WITH THE CONTEXT, THE FULL CONTEXT, OF WHAT AMBASSADOR YOUNG SAID, WHICH IS THAT MR. MOBUTU INHERITED A SITUATION WHICH WAS VERY DIFFICULT, ONE ON WHICH THE INFRASTRUCTURE OF ZAIRE WAS ALL BUT NON-EXISTENT. AND HE HAS HAD TO WRESTLE WITH THAT.

INSOFAR AS COMMENTING ON EACH SPECIFIC PHRASE TAKEN

OUT OF LONGER PHRASES THAT THE AMBASSADOR, CABINET-LEVEL OFFICER, OR ANYBODY ELSE, ISSUES, I AM SIMPLY NOT GOING

TO COMMENT EVERY DAY ON IT. AND THE OPPORTUNITY OBVIOUSLY IS GOING TO ARISE EVERY DAY.

3. Q. YOU THINK SO?

A. FROM SOMEWHERE.

4. Q. IF MOBUTU DOES NOT KNOW WHAT IS GOING ON, IS THIS WHY WE ARE SENDING ALL THOSE RADIO PARTS AND SYSTEMS--TO HELP HIM TO LEARN? THAT DOMINATED THE THING. WE SENT HIM AN AIRPLANE AND HOW MANY RADIO SYSTEMS AND RADIO PARTS...

A. WE ARE SENDING THE DOLLARS 13 MILLION WORTH OF ASSISTANCE TO ZAIRE IN AN EFFORT TO INCREASE THAT NATION'S ABILITY TO PROTECT ITS BORDERS, REPEL THE INVADER, AND RESTORE ITS TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY.
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Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 15-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: GHAMILTON:LM
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From: STATE
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